



PATENT
00833-P0043A SPM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	Timothy Raymond Hirst
Application No. 10/743,391	Filing Date: December 22, 2003
Title of Application:	Mutant Forms Of EtxB and CtxB And Their Use As Carriers
Confirmation No. 7178	Art Unit: 1632
Examiner	Paul Dowell

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response to Office Action

In response to the Official Action of December 8, 2005, Applicants submits its election and presents amended claims conforming the claims to the elections made.

Election Pursuant to Restriction Requirement

Applicants hereby elect the invention designated by the Examiner as Group I, claims 1-18, 21 and 23-25 for prosecution in this case.

The Examiner has also required an election of either a mutant form of EtxB or a mutant form of CtxB. For purposes of prosecution in this application, applicants elect a mutant in the specific amino acid region common to both CtxB and EtxB and known in the art as the β 4- α 2 loop. More particularly applicants elect the mutant in the amino acid residues E51 - I58 of the β 4- α 2 loop found in both CtxB and EtxB identified on page 9 (lines 11-12) of this application, and claim 9.

The Examiner has also required an election of an agent. In compliance with the Examiners' instructions and for the purpose of facilitating examination only, applicants elect the agent identified as a peptide/protein on page 3 of the December 8, 2005 Official Action.

For purposes of expediting the prosecution, the foregoing elections are implemented as amended claims in the following Amendment.

All non-elected inventions disclosed or previously claimed in the application, including those specifically identified in said December 8, 2005 Official Action, are reserved for further prosecution in a future patent application.